

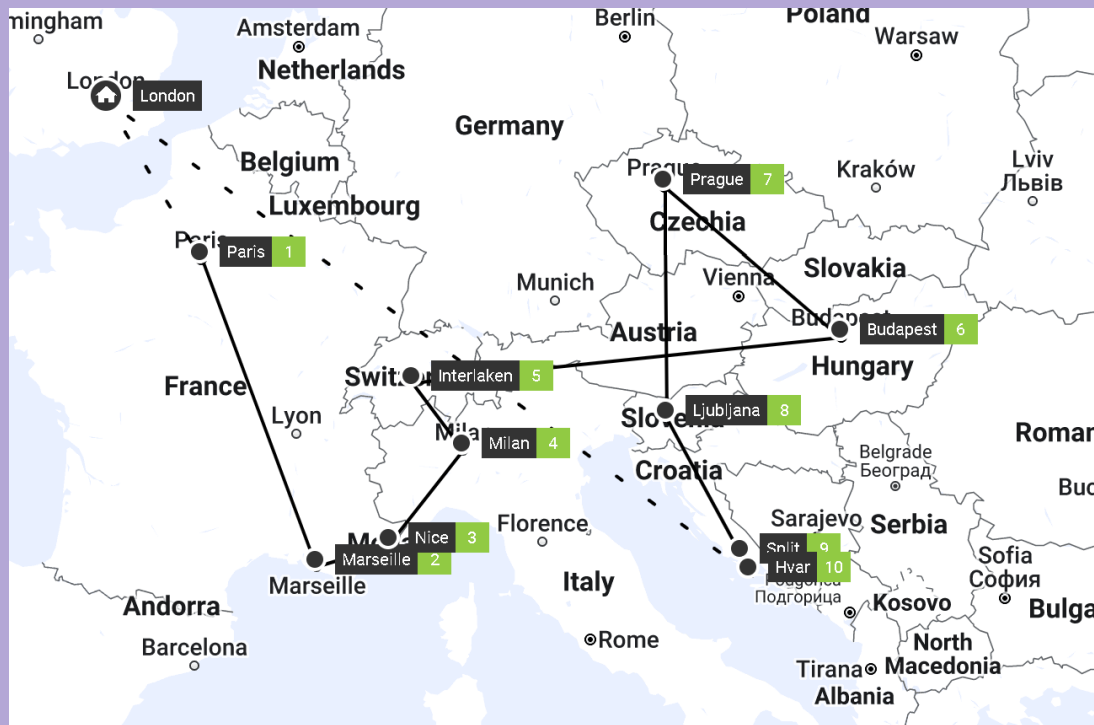
Interrail trip 30 June – 7 August 2022



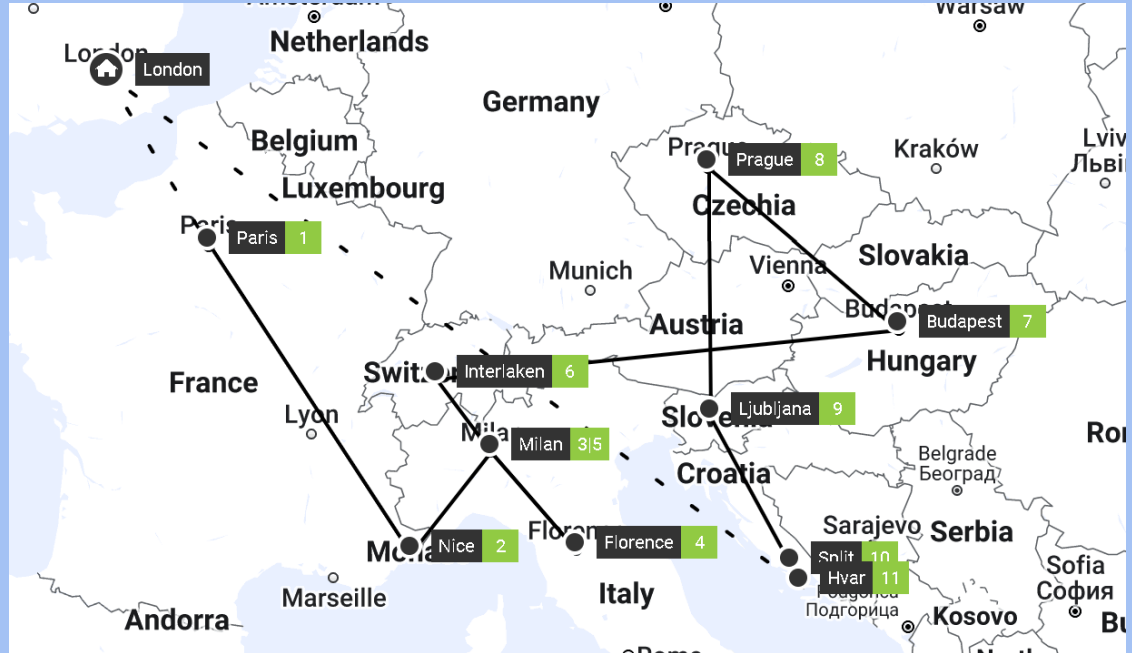


Planned itinerary

London (2 nights)
Paris (5 nights)
Marseille (3 nights)
Nice (4 nights)
Milan (3 nights)
Interlaken (1 night)
Budapest (4 nights)
Prague (4 nights)
Ljubljana (4 nights)
Split (1 night)
Hvar (4 nights)



London (2 nights)
Paris (8 nights)
Nice (4 nights)
Florence (1 night)
Milan (3 nights)
Interlaken (1 night)
Budapest (4 nights)
Prague (4 nights)
Ljubljana (4 nights)
Split (1 night)
Hvar (4 nights)





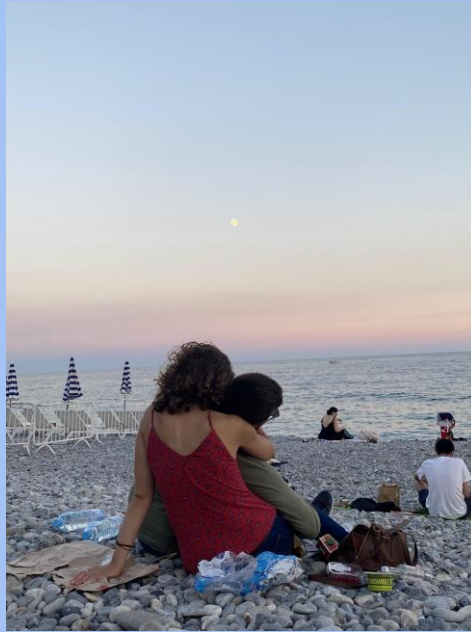
Winning the ticket and how I felt about it

- ☉ I was really surprised but very excited to win the ticket!
- ☉ I was prepared to travel alone or with friends
- ☉ However, my friend also won a ticket
→ we decided to go interrailing together!
- ☉ When planning the trip, we considered the following:
 - how long should we head out for
 - where should we travel to
 - for how long should we stay at each destination
 - our budget





How long should you head out for?



- ☉ This is a very personal choice and depends on different factors!
- ☉ I was ready to travel for quite a long time
- ☉ Based on my experience, I would say that around two to four weeks is a suitable time.



Where should you travel to?

- ⦿ Perhaps the most difficult thing to decide when planning the trip was where we should go. We decided to go to destinations that were both culturally interesting and had good weather, and where we might expect to meet other interrailers.
- ⦿ If you want to travel cheaply, Eastern Europe is really great, and it is also – inexpensive!
- ⦿ You should look carefully into the train connections – some countries require seat reservations, which may quickly add up to a surprisingly large sum.
→ RailPlanner app






For how long should you stay at your destinations?



- ⦿ When planning the trip, we liked the idea of being spontaneous
 - we made no reservations in advance.
- ⦿ We only booked a hostel at our first destination and the train tickets.
- ⦿ In hindsight, both of us would book things in advance – *especially if we chose to travel during the peak season again!!*
- ⦿ Reasons:
 - the sooner you book, the more likely you are to find vacancies
 - our original plans did not change very much
 - we would have saved a lot of time and money and things would have been less stressful during the trip if we had booked everything in advance

The background of the slide is a collage of various US dollar bills, including \$100 and \$500 notes, scattered across the surface. A solid yellow circle is positioned to the left of the main title.

Money!! How much? Where to save money and where to splash out?

- Each traveller's budget is very individual and depends a lot on where you travel to and how you want to travel
- Things that you can save on WITHOUT compromising on travel comfort:
 - **Meals** – have breakfast and one of your main meals in the accommodation (if it has a kitchen) and save restaurants for 'special occasions'
 - **Use overnight trains** – it's as simple as that! Accommodation+travel in a single package saves money
 - **Visit cheaper destinations** – select countries which do not require seat reservations or which otherwise have lower living costs
- Things you can save on with a little flexibility:
 - **Accommodation** – staying in hostels, especially in dormitories, is often much cheaper
 - **Time of travel** – travelling in the morning and evening is often cheaper than in the daytime or during peak hours



Things you should remember when planning your trip

☉ Travel insurance

- *I cannot stress this too much!* A good travel insurance policy is worth more than gold, especially on an Interrail trip where the pace of travel is often fast and all sorts of things may happen.
- You should invest in good travel insurance!

☉ Passport

- This may sound stupid, but *check that your passport is valid in good time before you head out!*

☉ Possible stumbling blocks

- For example, I knew that I get hangry if my blood sugar drops -> we planned in advance and brought snacks
- Spending a month together with someone may be a bit intense -> we had 'me time' during which we were on our phones, read a book or talked to other friends



A man and a woman are parasailing over a large body of water. The man, in the foreground, wears a red helmet with yellow and blue stars and a white t-shirt. The woman, behind him, wears a pink helmet with blue stars and a green life vest. They are both smiling. The parasailing rig's metal poles and tires are visible. Below them, a suburban neighborhood with houses and trees is visible on the shoreline.

Last words!

Have fun! Relax – it is very likely that things will be fine in the end, even if something does go wrong. An Interrail trip is a great experience!